



THE COUNTY OF KAUAI

DEREK S. K. KAWAKAMI, MAYOR

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News Release

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Statement by Mayor Kawakami on Gov. Ige's announcement to reinstate interisland travel quarantine

LĪHU'E – Mayor Derek S. K. Kawakami has issued the following statement regarding Gov. David Ige's announcement to reinstate the interisland travel quarantine.

"I support the Governor's decision to reinstate our interisland quarantine through at least the month of August. It is disheartening to have to take a few steps back in order to move forward, but it is necessary given the recent outbreaks on O'ahu. Kaua'i may be an island of its own, but we are all connected. The quarantine allows us a layer of protection to help us keep our island and our people safe. This measure also allows our county to remain in the 'Act With Care' impact level, and spares us from having to shut down businesses and public spaces like Oahu has had to do.

"But government does not and cannot control this virus. As we have said from day one, the virus moves when we move it. The reckless actions of a few individuals will have detrimental effects. Gatherings of people who do not wear masks or practice physical distancing are the core reason for our current outbreak. This type of behavior will continue to threaten the health and safety of our community, and will further hinder our ability to stabilize our economy.

"With just nine ICU beds and 14 ventilators on our island, it won't take much to overwhelm our healthcare system. This is a community challenge that we must overcome and it requires us to work together. If we continue to work as a team, we can and will overcome this. We ask for your continued diligence, self-discipline, and integrity to do the right thing and protect



our people and this island that we call home. Please be responsible and take care of one another. Let's get through this together." - Mayor Derek S. K. Kawakami

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